

**APPENDIX  
INDICATION OF CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

14. Spinal osteosynthesis device comprising:  
at least two bone-anchoring elements; and  
means for longitudinally connecting the at least  
two bone-anchoring elements;  
each of the at least two bone-anchoring elements  
comprising:

a head shaped so as to allow grasping with a  
screwing tool;

a threaded shank extending from the head, and

a tightening element which can be fitted onto  
the threaded shank to immobilize an assembly comprising the  
means for longitudinally connecting and a corresponding one  
of said at least two bone-anchoring elements,

wherein the threaded shank has a ball end, the  
head of each of the at least two bone-anchoring elements  
having an opening into a recess defined by an approximately  
hemispherical interior surface sized to receive the ball  
~~end of the threaded shank, the head having a hemispherical~~  
~~exterior surface, the interior and exterior surfaces~~  
~~defining a wall therebetween, wherein the wall tapers as it~~  
~~approaches the opening; and~~

wherein ~~the~~said interior surface ~~is~~and said  
exterior surface are continuous throughout an entirety on a  
periphery of the recess, the interior and exterior surfaces

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extending beyond the periphery on a side opposite a bottom  
of the recess, so as to define a continuous wall  
therebetween, the wall protruding on said side opposite a  
bottom of the recess, said wall extending around said ball  
and in an immediate vicinity of said ball, said wall  
tapering and terminating in a free edge defining the  
opening having a diameter that is less than a diameter of  
the ball, the bottom of the recess lying on one side of an  
equator of the ball, a part of the ball around which the  
free edge extends lying on an opposite side of the equator  
of the ball.

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31. Spinal osteosynthesis device comprising:  
at least two bone-anchoring elements; and  
means for longitudinally connecting the at least  
two bone-anchoring elements;

each of the at least two bone-anchoring elements  
comprising:

a head shaped so as to allow grasping with a  
screwing tool, the head having an opening into a recess  
defined by an approximately hemispherical interior surface;

a first threaded shank with a ball end extending  
from the head, the recess of the head being sized to  
receive the ball end of the first threaded shank;

a second threaded shank rigidly extending from  
the head opposite the recess; and

a tightening element which can be fitted onto the  
first threaded shank to immobilize an assembly comprising  
the means for longitudinally connecting and a corresponding  
one of said at least two bone-anchoring elements,

wherein the head has a hemispherical exterior  
surface, ~~the interior, and exterior surfaces defining a~~  
~~wall therebetween, wherein the wall is integral with the~~  
~~second threaded shank;~~

~~wherein the wall tapers as it approaches the~~  
~~opening; and~~

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~~wherein the said interior surface is and said~~  
exterior surface are continuous throughout an entirety on a  
periphery of the recess, the interior and exterior surfaces  
extending beyond the periphery on a side opposite a bottom  
of the recess, so as to define a continuous wall  
therebetween, the wall protruding on said side opposite a  
bottom of the recess, said wall extending around said ball  
and in an immediate vicinity of said ball, said wall  
tapering and terminating in a free edge defining the  
opening having a diameter that is less than a diameter of  
the ball, the bottom of the recess lying on one side of an  
equator of the ball, a part of the ball around which the  
free edge extends lying on an opposite side of the equator  
of the ball.